

October 29, 2012

Dear LEA Leaders and Community Stakeholders,

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education's (OSSE) Division of Specialized Education (DSE) is pleased to announce the release of its Annual Parent Involvement Survey.

Each year the US Department of Education's (US DOE) Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires OSSE to survey parents about the services they received and their involvement with their child's schools. Additionally, the results are utilized to assist OSSE in the improvement of services and supports specifically in the areas of parent engagement.

In previous years, the survey was made available to parents and guardians of children receiving special education services by paper copy ONLY. This year, OSSE will be utilizing an online survey and will also disseminate a paper survey upon request.

OSSE specifically asks for your support in disseminating the postcard announcement of the survey to students who are receiving special education services. Please take a moment to add the announcement to students backpack.

OSSE protects the privacy of parents responding to the survey; therefore individual responses will be confidential. OSSE collects this information and reports a summary to OSEP by February 1st of the next year. A summary of the survey results will be provided to local education agencies (LEAs).

Memos to parents and guardians, as well as a list of frequently asked questions and next steps, have been created to assist you in sharing this information. This information can be found online by selecting the following link: OSSE Annual Parent Survey or by visiting http://osse.dc.gov/service/annual-specialized-education-parent-survey.

The survey will be conducted starting Monday, October 29, 2012 and will remain open until Friday, December 14, 2012.

OSSE has a designated point of contact to assist you and the families you serve with the completion of the survey please contact Ms. Desirée Brown, Special Assistant, Community and Parent Relations at, 202-741-0271 or by email at osse.spedparentsurvey@dc.gov.

Thank you in advance for your help in making the survey process a success.

Sincerely,

Amy Maisterra, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent for Specialized Education